
Finance and Property Directorate

Assistant Director (Benefits and Taxation): G Hawkins ACIS

PO Box 63, Barnsley, S70 2TJ

Tel: (01226) 770770 Fax: (01226) 774799

bentax@barnsley.gov.uk

COUNCIL TAX REDUCTIONS

REDUCTIONS FOR THE DISABLED

The Council Tax (Reductions for Disabilities) Regulations provide for reductions in Council Tax for disabled persons in certain circumstances. This leaflet sets out in general, simplified terms the provisions for Council Tax reductions for disabilities and should not be relied upon as a detailed statement of qualification.

What are Reductions for the Disabled?

If you or someone in the household is disabled **AND** additional facilities have been provided within the property, then the amount of Council Tax due may be reduced.

One of the following must be a feature of the property **AND** be required as essential to the well being of the disabled person living there because of the nature, or extent of, his / her disability.

1. A room, other than a bathroom, kitchen or toilet (and not a garage), which is predominantly used by the disabled person. Examples are a room used specifically for storing specialised equipment (such as a dialysis unit or a wheelchair) or a downstairs room (such as a dining room) which has been converted into a bedroom.
2. An additional bathroom or kitchen primarily for the use of the disabled person.
Note: A second toilet with or without a washbasin is not classed as a bathroom.
3. Sufficient space in the house to allow a wheelchair to be used indoors. The disabled person must need to use a wheelchair inside the house.

What is Meant by Disabled?

A qualifying individual means someone (adult or child) who is "substantially and permanently disabled, whether by illness, injury, congenital deformity or otherwise".

Can I Still Get a Council Tax Discount?

Yes - if you live alone, or where there are two or more adult residents and all or all but one of them are disregarded. Further details can be found by accessing the Council's website (www.Barnsley.gov.uk), from all Barnsley Connects offices or by contacting the Council Tax Helpline on Barnsley 774774.

Will my Council Tax Benefit be Affected?

Yes. Your benefit may be reduced if you also receive a disabled reduction but **YOU WILL NOT BE ANY WORSE OFF.** Depending on your income, capital and family circumstances you may well be better off.

Making an Application

Complete the application form overleaf, and return it, together with any supporting documentation. You need not apply each year but may be contacted periodically to confirm that your circumstances have not changed since the original application. Changes in circumstances must be notified to the Council immediately.

G Hawkins
Assistant Director (Benefits and Taxation)

COUNCIL TAX - APPLICATION FOR DISABLED REDUCTION

This form should be completed by the person who is liable for payment of the Council Tax and returned to Finance & Property directorate (address shown overleaf).

Please write in ink and use **BLOCK LETTERS**

1	<p>YOUR FULL NAME AND ADDRESS</p> <p>Surname: _____ First Name(s): _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Council Tax Reference Number : _____ Telephone Number: _____</p>
2	<p>FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE DISABLED PERSON</p> <p>Surname: _____ First Name(s): _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p>
3	<p>DETAILS OF DISABILITY</p> <p>What is the nature of the Disability?</p> <p>_____</p>
4	<p> GROUNDS FOR APPLICATION Please ✓ the appropriate box(es).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A room other than a bathroom, kitchen or toilet (and not a garage) which is predominantly used by, and is essential to the well-being of the disabled person. Please provide details of the purpose(s) for which the room is used.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> An additional bathroom or kitchen which is essential to the well being of the disabled person.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A wheelchair which is needed and used by the disabled person <u>inside</u> the property.</p>
5	<p>DECLARATION</p> <p>The information given on this form is correct to the best of my belief and knowledge. I undertake to notify you immediately if I believe that I am no longer eligible for a reduction granted in respect of this application. I understand that if upon inspection of the property Disabled Persons Property Relief is not due any allowances received will be reclaimed.</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>